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ABSTRACT

The materials for learning Kanuri are designed for the language training of Peace Corps volunteers. They include lessons organized around ten themes: introductions (others, family, greetings and condolences); expressing one's needs; shopping; the tailor; meals; giving and getting directions; travel; daily activities; and gardening. Lessons include lists of vocabulary and expressions to be learned, grammar notes, additional useful expressions, exercises, and in some cases, cultural notes. (MSE)

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ED 401 717

Peace Corps Niamey

U Kanuri riki. Ti kanuri ciri. Andi kanuri niy
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Compétences Communicatives

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Manuel de Kanuri

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KANURI

MAY 1993

THEME I

GREETINGS : INTRODUCTIONS

Competency N° 1 :
To greet and take leave

Vocabulary

Leadu	- To greet
A'a	- No
Awi	- What
Aaà	- Yes
Bari	- Tomorrow
Bawo	- Not (non existent)
Dabdu	- To spend a day/a day spent
Dondi	- ill
Fado	- Home/house
Inda	- How
Jni	- It's not
Kajiri	- Afternoon
Kasumba	- Fatigue/tiredness
Kida	- Work
Klewa	- Well/allright/health
Kuttu	- Not fine/sad/Not good
Nawu	- How much
Nuri	- Child
Saa	- Time
Salay	- (Intensifier used only with Klewa)- Very well
Sawi	- When
Say	- Until
Suwa	- Morning

Tiy	- Body
To	- Ok, all right
Tushia	- Later
Ushe	- Hello
Wadu	- To wake up/waking up!
Yal	- Family
Yawa	- (Answer to ushe) could also mean 'aha I expect it'
Yo	- OK

Expressions :

Inda dabdu ?	- Good afternoon (Litt. how is the day spent)
Inda wadu ?	- Good morning (Litt. how is waking up)
Dabdu klewa	- Well (Litt. the day spent is alright) In response to inda Dabdu
Wadu klewa	- Well (litt : waking up is alright) In response to inda Wadu
Klewa salay	- Very well
Klewa'a ?	- Is it alright ?
Klewa num ?	- Are you well ? (Litt: Your health ?)
Klewa, ni.	- I'm well/fine
Klewa nju ?	- Is he well ? (Litt : his health ?)
Klewanju.	- He is well.
Dabdunowo klewan	- Have a good day (spend the day well)
Wanowo klewan	- Have a good night (wake up well)
Inda kida ?	- How is work ?
Kida sa'an ju	- It is going on (litt. it is work's time)
Say bari	- See you tomorrow (litt. until tomorrow)
Say tushia	- See you later (litt. until later)
Inda ka sumba	- Are you tired ? (litt. how about fatigue)

Kasumba bawo - I'm not tired (litt. there is no fatigue)

Klewa Saley _ Alright or all right

At any time time one can also ask this informal greetings expression :

Awi yei ? - What's up ?

The answer can be Klewa salay .

Adverbs :

Runi	(on my own)
Runum	(on your own)
Runju	(on his own)
Runde	(on our own)
Rundo	(on your own)
Runja	(on their own)
Dige/diye	(simply, merely)
Gnia	If it is not = except.

LISTE OF USEFUL EXPRESSIONS :

Gawursene	Excuse me
Kji/ngla/to	Tasty/good
Kna faki	I'm hungry
Yimbarukena	I'm tired
Klani cirundi	I have a headache
Ngalaro knum dikna	I slept well
Raako/Raeko	I need / I like
Wanikna	I don't like
Rikeni	I've not understand
U jorini	I'm not stupid

Jire	It's true
Cidena	It's enough
Kausua	It's hot
Kmuwu faki	I 'm hot
Zauro keruwua	It's very windy
Zau yaye ruwune	Write, please
Inda ... ?	Where ?
Bannassu ene	Help me
Rangume saddu wumia -	Can you accompany me ?
Bayani ce	Explain it to me
Naran ... ?	Where is ...?
Awi ye in wuljay ?	How do we say ?
Yuwot kekena	I've lost ...
Rangume fu lan waldu mia ?	Can you come back later ?
Dama takeni	I don't have time
Cinnada kane	Open the door
Awiro	Why ?
Inda ye nin ?	How ?
Sawi	When
Nara lenimi ?	Where are you going ?
Awi raam ?	What do you want ?
Sa nawu nin mota da leji ?	What time does the car leave ?
Zau yaye	Please
To/yo	OK
Gudu faki	I'am thirsty
U dondi	I'm ill
Tiy ni kuttu	I'm ill
Knum faki	I'm sleepy

...Raako	I like ...
Fakni	I have not heard
Jire eni	It's false - It's not true.
Kakua	It's cold
Rumbaa ?	Have you seen it ?
Zau yaye wolle wulle	Please, say it again
Kalala ronowo	Be quiet !
Gum deo	Be quiet !
Cinna da jane,zaw yaye	Shut the door,please.

Grammar

Subject pronouns in kanuri :

English	Kanuri
I	U
You	Ni
He/She/It	Ti
We	Andi
You(pl)	Nandi
They	Tandi

* These pronouns are only used to make clear who the subject is, otherwise they are not used in sentences.

Possessive pronouns in kanuri

English	Kanuri
My	Ni
Your	Num
His/Her/Its	Nju
Our	Nde
Your(pl)	Ndo
Their	Nja

The possessive pronouns are suffixed to the nouns:

Ex: Fadoni ___ my house; Baanju _____ his father

The negative possessive is formed by adding "ini" to the combined noun - possessive pronoun.

Ex: fadoni ____ my home ; fadoni ini _____ it's not my home.
Baanju _____his father ; baanju ini ____ it's not his father.

Use of 'inda': 'inda + noun is used to inquire about the state of people and their surrounding during greetings.

Ex: Inda fado ? how is home ? Fado klewa - Name well.
Inda John ? - How is John ? John klewanju - John is fine.

Daddu (to spend a day)

(U) Dabduniki .... I spend the day
(Ni) Dabdunimi.... You spend the day
(Ti) Dabduji...He/She spends the day
(Andi) Dabduniye....We spend the day
(Nandi) Dabdunuwi...You spend the day
(Tandi) Dabdujan..They spend the day

(U) Wanuki ..... I wake up
(Ni) Wanumi....You wake up
(Ti) Waji..He/She wakes up
(Andi) Waniye...We wake up
(Nandi) Wanuwi....You wake up
(Tandi) Wajay....They wake up

Note: The simple present tense has the same form as the future tense e-i the above conjugation is also in future tense. (See index for more details)

In kanuri, the subject pronouns are not used in sentence except to put an emphasis on the subject doing the action.

Ex : 'wanuki' is more commoun than 'u wanuki'.

Questions are made by adding 'wa' to the final word or merely raising the tone. The negative form is made by adding "wawo" to the conjugated form of the verb except 2nd person singular (has its negative by suppressing the ending 'i' and replacing it by 'bawo').

Ex : Dabduji wawo - He doesn't spend the day.
Dabdunimbawo - You don't spend the day.

Use of 'bawo : bawo is used to state that something is not.

Ex : Klewa bawo/klewaini - It is not all right.

Nuri bawo - There is no child.

Notice that 'bawo' is placed at the end of the sentences.

Exercices :

N°1 : Fill in the missing parts of these two greeting dialogues.

Suwa	Kajiri :
A: inda.....?	A: inda.....?
B:.....	B:.....
A: inda fado ?	A:.....?
B:.....	B:.....
A: inda kinda ?	A:.....?
B:.....	B:.....

N°2 : Give a negative answer to the questions below :

a- Klewanum ?

b- Klewanju ?

c- Fado numwa ?

d- Kidanjuwa ?

e- Dabdunumi wa ?

N°3 : Translate these expressions into Kanuri :

I'm well; Our home is all right; Their child is not well; Your job is going on.

Counting from 1 to 20 findi komme :

Tilo/fal	1
Indi/Yindi	2
Yakku/yasku	3
Deou/dewu	4
Uwu	5
Arakku/arasku	6
Tulur	7
Wusku	8
Ligar	9
Mewu	10
Mewun (lukko) tilon	11
Mewun (ii) indin	12
Mewun (ii) yakkun	13
Mewun (ii) dewun	14
Mewun deri	14
Mewun lukko uwun	15
Mewun (lukko) arakkun	16
Mewun (ii) tulurin	17
Mewun(lukko) wuskun	18
Mewun laari	19
Findi	20

* The use of lukko (and/plus) is optional.
* Numbers coming after ten (=mewu) have the tens and the units ending with n, e, g : mewun tilon = 11.

EXPRESSIONS :

Nawu/dawu/nangu	- How many/how much.
Fandon kam nawu ?	- How many people are there in your family?
Kurwunum nawu ?	- How old are you ?
Kakadu nawu tam ?	- How many books have you got ?

Competency N° 2

Introduction

Vocabulary

Afuno	- Hausa
Buduma	- Buduma (a kanuri branch)
Ako	- There
Awima	- Any
Barema	- Farm worker/farmer
Bla	- City/village
Cidi	- Country/land
Cu	- Name
Dara/nara	- Where
Dawu	- How much
Dio	- To do
Dga	- To live (in aplace)
Fulata	- Fulani
Jabarma	- Zarma
Kam Niger ye	- A person of Niger
Kam Amerik ye	- A person of america
Kanuri	- Kanuri
Kam	- Person
Kandine/Buzu	- Tuareg
Knde/knso	- To come
Krgam	- To dwell/to stay

Krma	- Now
Kurwu	- Age/year
Kiari	- Old man
Kla	- Self/head
Kmaski	- Neigh bor
Kumurjo	- Old woman
Kskama	- Woodseller
Lardu	- Region
Ladoma	- Seller
Lokolma	- Student
Laa	- An/a (article)
Lokotor	- Doctor/nurse
Malam lokol	- Teacher
Motoma	- Driver/car owner
Nassara	- European (westerner esp.white)
Nin/lan	- In/from
Nda	- Where (used when looking for a place)
Sawi/sabi	- When
Sawa	- Friend
Suni	- Herdsman
Towo	- Over there
Ye	- Of (possession)
Ungo	- Here
Wasiri	- Arab
Wundu	- Who/What

EXPRESSIONS :

Wundu Cunum ?	What is your name ?
Cuni X	My name is X
Ako sawani	There is my friend
Daranin Kadim ?	Where did you come from ?
Fado nin Kadiko	I came from home
Kurwu num dawu ?	How old are you ? (litt how many are your year ?)
Kurwu ni 26	I'm 26 (litt my years are 26)
Towo kiari la	an old man over there
Awi cu bla num ye	What is your town's name ?
Cu bla ni ye Denver	My town's name is Denver
Awi kida num ?	What is your work ?
U barema	I'am a farm worker/a famer
Kida awima ye dikiwawo	I don't have a job (litt don't do any work)
Dara nin Krgam ?	Where do you stay ?
Hamdallay nin kergako	I'm staying in Hamdallaye
Ni kam dara ye ?	What is your nationality (you are a person from where ?)
Dara nin Dgam ?	Where do you live ?
Niamey nin dgako	I live in Niamey
Dga and krga mean	To live or to stay.

Grammar

Conjugation of the verbs to come, to do, and to live.The use of subject pronouns is not necessary unless one needs to put emphasis on the person doing the action.

Verb to come : (Knso)

Present and future **Past** **Negative (past)**

Issiki I come	Issikna	I came	Issikni
Issimi You come	Issima	you came	Issimmi
Issi He/She comes	Issena	he/she came	Issani
Issiye We come	Issiyena	we came	Issiyende
Issuwi You come	Issuwa	you came	Issuwi
Issay They come	Issana	they came	Issanni

Conjugation of the verb "dio" (to do) Conjugation of "karga" (to stay). (See index for more details).

	Present tense affirmative form	Past tense
Verb:	Dio = to do	Dimba
	Dimi	cidina
	cidi	Diyena
	Diye	Diywa
	Diywu	Cadina
	Cadi	

Daga : to live (a place)

Present :	Past tense
Dgaki.....I live	Dgakena...I lived
degami....You live	Dgamba...You lived
dgay....He/She lives	Dgana...He/She lived
dgaye....We live	Dgayena..We lived
dgawu....You live	Dgawa...You lived
dassay....Theylive	Dassaana....They lived

The negative of the past is formed by changing the ending of the verbs as follow.

U (I) : with the first person replace the verb's last vowel with "i"

ex : dikna (I have done);dikni (I haven't done)

Ni (you) : with the 2nd person replace the verbs last syllable with "mi" . ex : dimmi

Ex: Dimba (you have done); (Dimmi (you haven't done)

Ti (he/she) : with the 3rd person replace the verbs last vowel with "i";

Ex : cidina (he/she has done); (he/she hasn't done) = Cidini

Andi (we) : with "we" replace the verbs last vowel with "de".

Ex : Diyena (we have done); Diyende (we haven't done)

Nandi (you) : with "you" replace the verbs last vowel with "i"

Ex : Diuwa (you have done); Diuwi (you haven't done)

Tandi (they) : with "they" replace the verbs last vowel with "i"

Ex : Cadina (they have done); Cadini (they haven't done)

EXERCISES :

N° 1 Give the negative forms of these statements.

Cuni Moussa - neg -A'a, cuni Moussa ni.

1 Kanada lan kadio

2 kurwuni 30

3 Andi am France ye

4 U barema

5 Niamey lan kirgako

6 Hamdallaye nin kurwu ni yakku

7 Abdou Hamza kam Amerik ye

N° 2 Complete these statement by using an appropriate word:

Kadio, findi, bare, uwu, Georges.

1 Sawani cunju.....

2 Amerik lan.....

3 Kurwunju.....

4 Kidanju.....

5 Kannaanzu (give a figure)

N° 3 Translate these sentences into English.

Ti Nasara; Ni Kanuri; Niwundu; Wuafuno; Ti Nasara wa; Aaà Ti Nasara; A'a Ti fulata; Kam la Issana; Ti ferowa; Aaà Ti fero; Adi Kamu; Ani Kamuwa.

N° 4 Ask questions on the underlined words.

Exemple : Amerik lan kadio - Nara lan kadio ?

1. Cunju Georges.
2. Hamdallaye nin kida cidi.
3. Bari kida cidi.
4. Kurwunju fiasku
5. Sawanju lokotor

X-Culture

Greetings are at the heart of every communication among the kanuri people. The first thing to do when encountering a person is to greet him before starting any business with him. To not greet is considered a show of hostility and can indicate a disagreament betwen two persons. (the word "klewa"carries also the idea of peace).

Also in the process of greeting people ask about most, if not all of the other person's surroundings family and belongings. To show special interest ask about members of family by calling them by their names, if possible.

Men and women (particulary married) do not normally shake hands. Hugging is unknown.

A young person does not look into the eyes of elders.

COMPETENCE : N° 3

FAMILY

Vocabulary

amidda	A young woman
baa	Father
bacdu	To die
bawwa	Step-mother/aunt
diwu	Grandson/grand-daughter
durr	A relative
fero	A young girl
gagi	A young son/younger daughter
inna	Niece (may meam also aunt)
Ka'a	Grandfather/grandmother
kamu	Woman/lady
kanna	Younger brother/younger sister
kemi	Co-wife
keru	Elder son/daugheter
konguwa	Man/husband
krami	Relative/younger sister/brother
ksay	In-law
kwa	Husband
larusa	Marriage/newly wed
Niadu	To marry/to get married
rawa	Uncle

Ta	To have
tada	Boy/son
Tambo	To be born
Tardu	To divorce/to separate
ya	Mother
yeya	Older brother/sister

Grammar

Demonstrative adjectives :

Adi/Adu	this
Ani	these

Exemples : Adu baani : This is my father

Ani kannaani : These are my junior brothers and sisters.

In a sentence adjectives must be placed after the noun.

Exemple : Kamu adu klewandju : this woman's health is fine.
This woman is fine.

Expressions :

Adu kamuni	This is my wife.
Adu kannani	This is my younger brother
Kanna dawu ?	How many younger brothers have you got
Awi cu rawanumbe ?	What is the name of your uncle ? or what is your uncle's name ?
Ani juria wunduye ?	Whose children are these ?

In kanuri, the plural is formed by adding "a" to the singular noun.

Plural forms of some words

Singular		plural	
durr	a relative	durra	relatives
ferro	a girl	feroa	girls
kamu	a woman	kamua	women
kemi	a co-wife	kemia	co-wives
konguwa	a man	konguwa'a	men
ksay	an in-law	ksaya	in laws

Conjugation :

Simple past tense

Ta - to have

(U) takna ----------> I have
(Ni) tamba ----------> You have
(Ti) cidana ----------> He/she has
(Andi) tayena ----------> We have
(Nandi) tawa ----------> You have
(Tandi) cazana/cadana----> They have

X-Culture : Sharing the heritage

The kanuri society use the islamic law to share the heritage,according to this law males membres receive 2 shares.Male membres get shares because they have the full responsability and duty to take care of the women and children. A woman does not call her first child, her husband and her in - laws by their names. She uses chosen nickname instead.

Exercises:

N° 1 Answer these questions

1. Wundu cu kannanum ye ?
2. Fando nin kam nawu ?
3. Rawanum kurwunju nawu ?
4. Awi kida baanum ye ?
5. Lokolwu nawu klass adu lan ?

N° 2 Translate these statements into kanuri

1. His father has two wives.
2. I have a friend called David.
3. I don't have any friend.
4. Where does your friend work.
5. We have three children: two boys and one girl.
6. We are seven in my family.

N°3 You pay a visit to a family and you talk to the father. After greeting him, answer these questions he may ask you.

1. Wundu cunum ?
2. Kurwu num nawu ?
3. Yalla num nawu ?
4. Lokol cadia ?
5. Awi kidanum ?
6. Tada num larusa cidina a ?
7. Fero wundu ye niajo ?

N° 4 Translate these sentences into kanuri

1 - I have six grand-children.

2 - My in laws have come.

3 - These are his sons.

4 - Their husband has not come.

5 - My son is getting married.

Proverb : **Kam fadoa koljina di, fado tia kolji.**
"Whoever flees home has lost home".

COMPETENCE :

Greetings and introduction
Express Condoleances

Vocabulary

Alà	God
Assir	Secret
Barka	Blessing, congratulations
Ci	Mouth
Dio	To do
Jektu	To shut/to protect
Kamboy	Light/not heavy
Katti	Sand
Kura	Big
Kuradu	To grow up
Salla	Prayer/feast

CONGRATULATIONS : BIRTH

Barka kla fondoro ! — Thank God you have safely delivered ! (Said to the woman).

Alà klewan kurajo ! — May God let him grow up in good health (Reference made to the newly born baby).

Answer : AMEN

Feast celebration

Barka da salla ! — Happy feast !

Answer : Barka da Salla

After someone had a close shave/or narrow escape

Barka ! Alà assirnum jekjo. — May God protect you !

Answer : Amen

Condoleances

Niger's population being largely muslm, people cite some verses of the Koran to the bereaved family or person so the deceased may rest in peace. In addition to the verses a kanuri can add.

Alà Katizu Kamboyro cido ! May God make the sand over him light!

THEME II

EXPRESSING ONE'S NEEDS

COMPETENCY
EXPRESSING ONE'S NEEDS
KRAONUM WULLE

Vocabulary

Al-alam	Pen/pencil
Ampul/kori	Bulb
Arozoir	Watering can
Ashana	Matches
Bal	Beer/alcoholic drink
Bar	Bar
Batr	Batteries
Blama	Chief of the village
Bri	Food
Bruet	Wheelbarrow
Bske	Dance
Cakol	Spoon/fork
Diga	Pick
Dgl	Bed
Fado hayaye	A house to rent
Fatela	Lamp
Gawodi	Toilet
Ingi	Water
Jene	Wrapper/dagna
Kakadu	Paper/book
Kalwu	Shirt
Karwun	Medecine
Kassala	Bath/Shower
Kasuwu	Market
Katiwa	Mattress
Kida	Work
Kidama	Workman
Kna	Hunger
Knum	Sleep
Kwano	Plate/container
Madu	To look for
Namushe	Mosquito net
Ngudu	Thirst
Otel	Restaurant
Post	Post office
Suno	Shoes/Sandals
Tasa	Cup/container
Tela/kekema	Tailor
Torshi	Flash light
Wando	Trousers.

List of verbs

Bô	To eat
Fandu	To feel/to hear
Fomdu	To walk around/to go for a walk
Ja	To drink
Kassaltu	To take a bath/a shower
Kra	To study/to read
Krao	To like/to love
Madu	To look for
Waddu	To dislike/to refuse.

Conjugation of 'madu'=to look for

Simple present tense (aff.)

Verb : madu	-	to look for (subj+noun+verb)
U ingi maki	-	I look for water -(lit:I water look for)
Ni ingi manumi	-	You look for water.
Ti ingi maji	-	He/she looks for water
Andi ingi maniye	-	We look for water.
Nandi ingi manuwi	-	You look for water.
Tandi ingi majay	-	They look for water.

Fandu to feel Conjugation of 'fandu'=to feel

Simple present(aff.)

U kna faniki	-	I am hungry
Ni kna Fanimi	-	You are hungry
Ti kna fanji	-	she/he is hungry
Andi kna faniye	-	We are hungry
Nandi kna fanuwi	-	You are hungry
Tandi kna fanjay	-	They are hungry

Expressions

Knun faki	-	I'm sleepy
Ngudu fanji	-	He is thirsty
Suno maki	-	I'm looking for a pair of shoes
Sunoni maki	-	I am looking for my pair of shoes

Simple present (negative form)

The negative is formed by adding wao to the conjugated form of the verb except for the second person singular when the "i" is dropped and "bao" is added .

Faniki---I feel
Fanimi----You fell

Fanikiwao-----I don't feel
Fanimbao----- you don't feel

Possessive pronouns

Kanuri	English
Kakke	mine
Kaanum	yours
Kaan'ju	his/her
Kaando	yours
Kaanja	theirs

Kanuri	English
Kakkeini	not mine
Kaanumimi	not yours
Kaajuini	not his/her
Kaando ini	not yours
Kaanjaini	not theirs

The negative possessive is formed by adding ini to the possessive

EXPRESSIONS

Adi Kakke	This is mine.
Ani Kaanju	These are his.
Toni Kaanja	Those are theirs.
Feroa ani Kaanju	These girls are his(daughters).

Exercises

I) **Translate the following sentences into Kanuri.**

1. This book is mine.
2. That pen is not hers.
3. This house is theirs.
4. Those spoons are yours.
5. This shirt is not his.

II) **Write the possible questions to which these sentences are answers :**

1. Batra adi Kakke.
2. Kakadua ani Kaanju
3. Jenea ade Kaanjuini
4. Kalwua toni Kaandeini
5. Cakola adi Kaande.

II) **Give the plural forms of the following words and use them in oral sentences**

Karwun - Dgl - Fatila - Suno -Kwano - Otel

IV) **Give the negative forms of these expressions**

1. Ingi maniye
2. Bal Casay
3. Nandi Kna Fanuwi.
4. Sunoa ani Kakke.

To count from 1 to 100 :

Tilo/fal	1
Indi/yindi	2
Yakku/yasku	3
Dewu	4
Uwu	5
Arakku/arasku	6
Tulur	7
Wusku	8
Ligar	9
Mewu	10
Mewun (lukko) tilon	11
Mewun (ii) indin/Mewun Yindin	12
Mewun (ii) yakkun	13
Mewun (ii) dewun	14
Mewun deri	14
Mewun (lukko) uwun	15
Mewun (lukko) arakkun	16
Mewun (ii) tulurin	17
Mewun(lukko) wuskun	18
Mewun (ii) laari	19
Mewun laari	19
Findi	20
Fyakku/Fyasku	30
Fidewu	40
Fiuwu	50
Firakku/Firasku	60

Fitulur	70
Fiusku/Fisku	80
Filarr	90
Miya(yar fal/tilo)	100

The use of lukko is required to clarify particularly in long numbers; when lukko is used, both the tens figures and the unit figures must be marked with the postposition.

Also fi = ten (e-g : fi tulur = 7 tens).

Exercises:

N° 1: Translate the figure in brackets into kanuri and use them as answers to the questions. Make complete sentences:

e.g. Awi maji ? (2 books).
Kakadu indi maji.

1. Kolji nawu a manemi ? (200 F).
2. Kugui nawu raam ? (5 hens).
3. Nawu nin yiwumi ? (300 F).
4. Suno nawu majay ? (10).
5. Ashana nawu madam maji ? (3).
6. Nawu ro bri buye curo kawu fal nin ? (3).
7. Jika nawu kndau lan gonimi ? (100,000 F).
8. "Stagiaires" nawu kanuri krajay ? (4).
9. "Formateurs" nawu hamdallaye nin kida cadi ? (8).
10. Mota nawu lokol adi nin taw ?(6).

N° 2 : Read about the following figures and use them in sentenses

11.
14.
16.
18.
20.
23.
25.
60.
75.
85.

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THEME III

SHOPPING

Competency N°4 :
Shopping

Vocabulary

Are	- Ccme (imperative; pl. Arowo)
Biadu	- To pay
Budu	- Cheap
Canji	- Change
Dibi	- Bad
Gana	- Small
Grdo	- To reduce
Jio/yio	- To buy
Kaawu/Kori	- Short
Kredu	- To choose
Kudo	- To bring
Kuru	- Long
Ladoali	- To Sell
Ladoma	- Seller
Lambo	- Number
Nguwu	- A lot of
Ro	- To/for
Yirga	- To add
Wa/-a	- And

Wuri/kunguna	- Money
Zaw/jaw	- Expensive
Za/da	- The

Animals :

Buni	- Fish
Dal	- (He) goat
Dalo	- OX
Fe	- Cow
Frr	- Horse
Kani	- (She) goat
Karimo/Karguino	- Camel
Kuwui	- Hen
Laman	- Live stock
Ngalaro	- Sheep

Food/ingredients

Arum	- Millet
Barwuno	- Hot pepper
Dā	- Meat
Dangari	- Sweet potatoe
Dayino	- Date
Doya	- Cassava
Goro	- Kolanut
Kolji	- Peanut
Lawasar	- Onion
Lemun	- Lemon
Lemunkano	- Orange

Masarmi	- Maize
Ngwul	- egg
Rungo	- Cereal flour
Shinkawa	- Rice
Suwur	- Sugar
Tumatun	- Tomato

Things :

Baono	- Hoe
Buji	- Mat
Grassan	- Thread
Gurumba	- Hat
Je	- Rope
Leme	- Necklace
Radio	- Radio
Riwura	- Needle
Sawul	- Soap
Sigari	- Cigarettes
Suno	- Sandals/Shoes
Tawa	- Tobacco (for chewing)

Colors :

Arin	- Blue
Bul (fak)	- White
Culum (pat)	- Black
Kime (cit)	- Red
Kri (jirt)	- Green
Kurnum	- Yellow

* The words in bracket are used to emphasize the color.

Monetary system :

Gursu	- Monetary unit
One gursu equals	- (5) francs CFA
Miya (100 gursu)/yar	- 500 F CFA
Jika/Yar yindi	- 1000 F CFA
Naira (N) fcfa	- Currency of NIGERIA 100 Kobo = 30 (gursu arraku)
Kobo	- 1/100 Naira
Sile	- 10 kobo
Kandoki/kadogo	- 25 F CFA Coin

* 'gursu' is used before the number for any amount of CFA money between 5 F CFA and 995 F CFA. From 1000 F up the counting unit is jika. Thus we have jika tilo (1000 F); Jika yindi (2000 F); etc...

* In the case of an amount of money added to thousand (like 1570 F CFA = Jika wa gursu miyan fitulurwa), the jika is used with 'Wa' before the gursu.

Expressions :

Nawu nawu ?	- How much does it cost ?
Nawuro ladami ?	- For how much will you sell it ?
Albarka ! article is	- It is not a good price (litt. the worth more than that)
Gana virgay	- add a little (more)
Nawu biyanumi ?	- How much (will) you pay ?
Wuri za kude	- Bring the money
Adi zaw; grne	- This is expensive; reduce the price
Are, sawul yiwe	- Come, buy some soap
Krene	- Choose (imperative/sing)
Krenowo	- Choose (imperative/pl)
Adi dawu ?	- How much does this cost ?
Biane	- Pay

Grammar

(See the index for details)

The two uses of 'ro' (=to and for)

a) ro as a preposition is equivalent to the english 'to' and 'for' when it occurs after a noun :

e.g., Kassuro lekna - I have gone to the market

Nawuro cilado? - For how much did he sell ?

b) ro is used to make adverbs when it occurs after an adjective :

e.g., Nguwu ro - much

Kuru ro - farther/far

Conjugation : of lado (to sell) and jio (to buy)

Lado - to sell :

Present (same form with the future tense) 1st Past

Lado = To sell	Lado = To sell
(U) ladiki - I sell	(U) Ladikna - I have sold
(Ni) ladimi - You sell	(Ni) Ladima - You have sold
(Ti) Ciladi - He/she sells	(Ti) Ciladina - we/she has sold
(Andi) Ladiye - We sell	(andi) ladiyena- We have sold
(Nandi) laduwu - You sell	(Nandi) laduwa - You have sold
(Tandi) caladi - They sell	(Tandi) caladana- they have sold

Present tense of : Jio=to buy **Past tense of : Jio = to buy**

Jio = To buy	Jio = To buy
(U) Yiwuki - I buy	(U) Yiwukna - I have bought
(Ni) Yiwumi - You buy	(Ni) Yiwumba - You have bought
(Ti) Ciwui - He/she buys	(Ti) Ciwuna - he/she have bought
(Andi) Yiwuye - We buy	(Andi) Yiwuyena- We have bought
(Andi) Yiwuyi - You buy	(Nandi) Yiwuwa - You have bought
(Tandi) Casuwui- They buy	(Tandi) Casuwana- They have bought.

Note: The ending of the second person singular in the past can be -ba or ma:

Ladima (you have sold) = Ladimba.
Yiwumba (you have bought) = Yiwuma.

Exercices :

N° 1 : In this exercice situations in the market are presented.
You have to write the appropriate response in Kanuri

a) You come across a mat seller. What is an appropriate question ? .....

.....
.....

b) A seller tells you that shorts you want to buy cost 10.000 F. What will
y o u a n s w e r
?.....

c) You want to buy some groundnuts but the seller has already sold out. How
d o e s s h e e x p l a i n t h i s t o y o u
?.....

d) You are planning to buy a horse. How do you announce this to y o u r f r i e n d s ?
.....
.....

e) You are looking for some soap. How do you explain this to the seller ?

.....
.....

f) What daes a seller say un order to have you tell your price ? . . . . . .
.....
.....

g) A seller wants to sell you an item you don't like. What will you tell him?

.....
.....

h) What does a seller say to show that the price you gave is very low ?

.....
.....

N° 2 : Make a short dialogue between you and a seller supposing you Want to buy sandals : after completing of the dialogue read it or act it out in front of class.

Proverb :

* Kassu tarji yaye Fatkema riwa juwuna.
  Even if the market is interrupted, the seller would have made gains.

X-culture :

- Always greet the seller
- Don't sniff items you are purchasing particularly if it is food. (except
  of course perfumes).
- Don't give or take anything with your left hand.
- Be Careful not to let a hawker go look for change unless he leaves his
  goods with you. (Otherwise he may vanish with your money).
- If you buy a lot of things from one seller he may (in most cases) give
  you a small gift.

THEME IV

AT THE

TAILOR'S

Competency N°5 : At the tailor's

Vocabulary	Kekema
Alam	- Flag
Adiko	- women's headscarf
Araw	- Turban
Brin	- New
Buton	- Button
Buzu/Kandin	- Tuareg
Canja	- Waist
canduna	- It is pretty
Dawwu	- Collar (neck)
Dudo	- To sew
Fska fiduwu	- To embroider
Grdo	- To reduce
Gari	- Big garment worn by men
Godadu	- To try
Guga	- Ironing/the iron itself
Gumaje	- Shirt
Jallabia	- Boubou (long garment worn men)
Jampa	- Jumper
Jawa	- Cap
jene	- Wrapper/pagna
Jolejole	- Multicolor

Kajimo	- Clothes/garment
Kamzu	- To cut
Kaleso	- Pants
Kumboram	- Right hand
Keke	- Sewing machine
Kekema	- Tailor
Kekemadi	- Tailor's workshop
Kura	- Big
Kuraduwu	- To enlarge
Kot	- Coat
Ludu	- To put on
Maasu	- Seissors
Mukko	- Sleeve (arm)
Ngaldu	- To measure
Nganji	- Chest
Ngawana	- Shoulders
Ngawo	- Back
Riwu	- Pocket
Rob	- Gown
Sar sarra	- Striped
Shawa	- Pleasing
Si/Shi	- Leg
Tela	- Tailor
Waldu	- To return
Wando/yange	- Trousers
Wando gazere	- Shorts
Wayla	- Left hand
Yadi/batta	- Piece of cloth/material
Zik	- Zipper

Expressions :

Gumaje mukko koria	- Short sleeves shirt
Gumaje mukko kurua	- Long sleeves shirt
Wando dudukna	- I have pants made
Yadi jallabia ye maki material	- I'm looking for a boubou's
Ua ngalssane	- Take my measurements
Arre, nia ngallaki measurements	- Come, I'm going to take your
Jene sar sarra raako	- I'd like a stripped cloth
Mukko gumaje ni ye grde	- Reduce the sleeves of my shirt
Canja wandoni ye yirgay	- Enlarge the waist of my pants
Rob kuruwu cirao	- She wants a long gown
Jene ada ngla	- This cloth is nice
Bari walle back)	- Come back tomorrow (litt. come
Zawro kura	- It's too big
Zawro gana	- It's too tight

Expressing one's satisfaction and dissatisfaction :

Canduna	- It's pretty
Zauro shawaa	- It's very pleasing
Zauro dudo nonumba	- You know how to sew very well
Kidanum nglaro dimba	- You did your job very well
Ngo wurinum	- Here is your money
Sawaniro wulliki issi here.	- I will tell my friend to come
Dudo ngla nonummi	- You don't know how to sew.
Battani banna numba	- You have wasted my material
Awiro adea cidum	- Why did you do this ?
Wurini she	- Give me back my money
Canduni	- It's not beautiful
Gadero gumajeni dudimba wo	- You will not sew my shirt again
Gadero nanumro issikiwa wo place again	- I will not come back to your

Grammar

(See index for details)

Object pronouns:

English	Kanuri
ME	Ua
YOU	Nia
Her	Tia
Us	Andia
You	Nandia
Them	Tandia

Ua(me); Nia (you); Tia(him/her) Andia (us); Nandia(you); Tandia(them)

They are formed by adding "a" to the subject pronouns

Example: John andia maji. John is looking for us.
"a" is also used as a coordinating conjunction equivalent to the English "with" (generally to relate an adjective) to the noun it describes.

Example: Gumaje mukko kurua --- A shirt with long sleeves
Wondo riwu kuraa --- trousers with a large pocket

Conjugation

Present: (Dudo = to sew or to have a garment made)

Past

Dudo
Duduki --- I sew
Dudemi ---- You sew
Cuduri----- He/She sews
Dudiye ---- We sew
Duduwi ---- You sew
Caduri ---- They sew

Dudukna --- I sewed
Dudumba ---- You sewed
Cuduruna---- He/she sewed
Duduniyena ---- We sewed
Duduwona ----- You sewed
Caduruna ----- They sewed

Ngaldu To take measurements

Present tense:

Past tense

Ngalleki--- I take measures
Ngalemi --- You take measures
Ngalji ---He/she takes measures measures

Ngalkna ------ I took measures
Ngalemba --- You took measures
Ngaljena ---- He/she took

Ngalliyé --- We take measures		Nglalliyena---	We	took
Ngalluwu --- You take measures		Nglalluwa ---	You	took
Ngalzey ---They take measures		Ngalzana ----	They	took

Imperative (See index for details)

Ngalsene !	Take my measures !
Ngallé !	Measure (it)
Dude !	Sew (it)!
Walle !	return !(come back)

Exercices :

N° 1 : Use the folowing words to fill in the blanks : Yiwuki, wandoni, grdo, kalwu, araw, jolijole, ngalji, kajimo, sarsarra, maasu :

1- ..... dudo raako.

2- Abdou ..... luji

4- Batta kime kassu nan .....

3- Buzuwa ..... Carayi

5- Kalwu adu kime, bul, culum : kalwu adi .....

6- Kekema tia .....

7- Gariwa, jallabiawa ..... kiaria ye

8- Alam Amerik ye..... .....

9- Kekema batta kamdu cirayi; ..... maji.

N° 2 : Translate the following paragraph into kanuri :

Tom wanted to have a shirt made. He bought the materiel for the shirt in the market. The material was multicolor. He went to the tailor's workshop. The tailor took his measurement. The tailor would finish the shirt in one day. Tom didn't have much money for new pants.

N° 3 : A tailor didn't sew your shirt well. Use a few expressions to show your dissatisfaction.

Proverb :

Kajimo tima fska konguwa ye /clothes save the honor of a man.

At the tailor :

X-culture :

- Avoid wearing tight clothes, that reveal contours of you body or clothes that are too transparent or too short.
- Make a difference between clothes worn in town and those worn in a village.
- Men and women should not walk around in short clothing in a village.
- Tailors don't respect the given appointments. Don't pay entirely the tailor before he's completed the work.

THEME IV

MEALS

COMPETENCY VII
MEALS

Vocabulary

Biskit	Biscuits
Bri	Food
Buni	Fish
Burodi	Bread
Cam	Milk
Cire	Meat in broach
Da	Meat
Dangali	Sweat potato
Duwaro	Quickly
Duwaro de	Do quickly
Duwaro are	come quickly
Fura/Tigra	Millet porridge
Fula(nkdau)	Oil(any oily substance)
Kafe	Coffee
Kalu	Sauce/leaves
Kanduwal	Live coals
Kange	Fume/smoke
Kaisu	Fat
Lemu hari	lemonade
Makaroni	macaroni
Masana/kalaji	Meal
Ngaji	Millet couscous
Shai	Tea
Shinkafa	Rice
Tapioka	Tapioca
Tlala	Paste (millet or sorghum)/soft
Wardu	To grill (barbecue)
Yaour	Yogurt

Vegetables and Sauce ingredients Vocabulary

Anana	Ananas
Ayaba	Bananas
Bulu	Sauce of powedered leaves (like okru)
Da	Meat
Dawdawa	Sort of local aroma
Gurji	Cucumber
Gwalo	Okra
Kajewu	Meleguet pepper
Karasu	Sauce of hibiscus
Karasu	Hibiscus leaves
Kare kalu	Sauce ingredients
Karoti	Carrot
Kolji	Peanut

Kulikuli	Dried peanut butter
Kuwwo	Baoabab leaves
Lawasar	Onion
Manda	Salt
Mangro	Mango
Rommaji	Maggi Cube (aroma)
Ngalo	Beans
Njita	Hot pepper
Salat	Letuce/salad
Sawadu /Kabewa	Pumpkin
Shu	Cablage
Tafarnua	Garlic
Tattasi	Pepper
Tomatun	Tomato
Yalo	Bitter/ variety of tomato

Sauce ingredients

There are generally two types of sauce in Kanuri. Bulu' that goes with paste and karasu that goes with millet couscous.

A recipe : How to prepare hibiscus sauce/Kalu karasu.

Recipient : Cooking pot

1. Heat some oil
2. Add some onion - let it be red
3. Add some meat and some pieces of pumkin.
4. Add some garlic.
5. Put some slides pf tomatoes. Heat it and stir it up.
6. Now pour some hibiscus (dry or fresh).
7. Add some pepper and some tinned tomatoe. Stir up the mixture.
8. Pour some water.
9. Add some potasium
10. Add pounded peanuts and let it boil.
11. If every thing is well cooked, add some salt.
12. Put some aroma.
13. Pour cassava flour.
14. Serve.

To pass from one step to another, allow the ingredients to simmer. The sauce can be eaten with some rice or millet couscous.

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How you can prepare the different sauces:

Bulu = Dried and powdered leaves (of okra or baobab), oil, meat, beans, onion, tomato, salt, maggi cube, melegueta, pepper, dawdawa, pepper.

Kalu karasu = dried or green hibiscus leaves, oil, meat, onion, tomato, salt, maggi cube, melegueta pepper, pumpkin, bit of gari.

A recite: How to prepare hibiscus sauce (kala karasu):

Vocabulary of kichen utensils

Ashana	Matches
Cakol	Spoon/fork
Fraduram	Broom
Fuko	Stove
Fulay	Win - smoking basket
Godala	Kitchen
Jena	Knife
Jeni	Ladle
Kanduwal	Live coal
Kannu	Fire
Karwui	Mixing stick
Kange	Fume/Smke
Kindey	Palm leaves basket
Kulo	Cooking pot
Kulwu	Potash
Kska	Wood
Ksurdu	To winnow
Tame	Sieve
Tassa	Bowl/container

Grammar

(See index for details)

List of verbs

Bo	To eat
Dedu	To cook
Fudu	To make a fire (lit. to blow fire)
Kardu	To prepare sauce
Kaweidu	To fry
Kldu	To mix
Nedu	To grind
Tuttu/guwurdu	To pound
Tambo	To taste
Yirga	To add

Conjugation of the verb 'dedu' (to cook)
Present tense

Dedu	To cook
deki	I cook
Denumi	You cook
Diji	He/she cooks
deniye	We cook
denuyi	You cook
Dezay	They cook

To Prepare the sauce ='kardu'

Kardu	To prepare the sauce
Kalu karneki	I prepare the sauce
Kalu karnemi	You prepare the sauce
Kalu karji	He/she prepares the sauce
kalu karniye	We prepare the sauce
Kalu karnuwi	You prepare the sauce
kalu karzay	They prepare the sauce

Imperative Dene (singular, denowo (plural.)

Expressions

Bri maki	- I'm looking for food.
Manda a tatasia yiwuki	- I'll buy some salt and some pepper.
Cinkara a ngalo a deji	- She prepares rice and beans.
Lemu hari cai	- He drinks some lemonade.
Bri fula a	- food with butter.
Burodi a shai a yiwe	- Buy some bread and tea.
Kanduwal mane da warniye to	- look for live coals, we are going grill some meat.
Buni gursu findi a raako	- I want a 100 F fish.
Kannu fune	- Start the fire
Kannu funiki	- I'm starting the fire
Bringaji karasu'a	- Millet couscous with hibiscus sauce
Tlala bulu ngalo wa	- paste with baobab leaves sauce.

Exercises

Exercise N° 1

Imagine this situation : you are at your post. One day you feel like having millet couscous and hibuscus sauce for dinner. Write down the instructions you may give to your house boy for the ingredients.

Exercise N° 2

Translate these sentences into English :

1 - Kannu maki, bri deki
2 - Buni kassu nin bawo
3 - Shinkafa Niger ye majay
4 - kalu da Kuttu
5 - Duwa ro dene
6 - Kare kalu nde ceruna
7 - Ngaji karasua bo raako
8 - Kulum kafe cai
9 - Masana jawui
10 - Tasa gana yiwe.

Exercise N° 3

Ask questions on the underlined parts:

Ex: Kalu karji

Question : Awi karji ? ----->Answer: Kalu karji

A. Bri deji

B. Karekalu maniye

C. Bika kassuro leniko

D. Kafe cirayi

E. Musa shinkafa ciraana

F. Saa masana ye cidina. Alia musa a masana jawui.

G. Fati ciro gimnju nin bri jui.

X - CULTURE

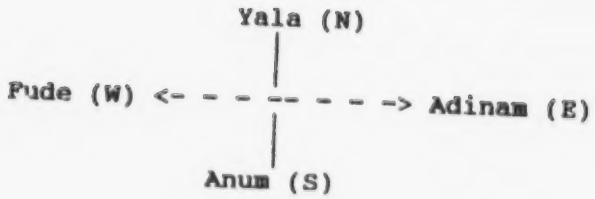
- Food is always shared even with unexpected visitors .
- Never sniff food.
- Never eat food with your left hand.
- Never say or show that food you are served tastes bad.

PROVERB

Bri boma nodiwawo say kalu ceriya.
The best food eater will not be known until the sauce is finished.

T H E M E VII

D I R E C T I O N S



COMPETENCY VIII
DIRECTIONS

Vocabulary

Adinam	East
Anum	South
Cidia	Under
Ciro	inside
Dewuram	cross-road
Fledu	to show
Fi	Which
Fu	front/ahead
Fu cik	straigh/ahead
Fude / fuze	West
Ga	to follow
Gurwo	hangar
jado	to take / to lead
Jawal	road / street / path
Jurwu	Garden
Karun	Near
Katte	between
Kaw	rocky hill
Kawdi	shade
Kla	over / on
Klo	farm
Kmboram	right
Kodu	to surpass / go beyond
Krila	sandy hill
Kro	to see
Kuris / kujera	chair
Kuru	far
Likitadi	hospital / dispensary
Lokol	school
Mashidi	mosque
Na	place
Nara	where
Nato	over there
Naadu	here
Ngawo	back
Ngor	ravine
Tabl	table
Tasha	taxi - brousse station
Wayla	left
Yala	North

EXPRESSIONS

Jawal fi likitadi ro cazi ?	- Which road leads to the hospital?
Jawal kmboro num ye gay	- Follow your right hand road.
Likitadi du fu mashidi nin	- The hospital is in front of the mosque.
Lokol du konumia, jawal	- If you past the school take the road to the north.
Yala ye da gone	-
Kakadu da kla tabl nin	- The paper is on the table
Suno du cidia dgl nin	- The sandals are under the bed .
Naranin tada du ?	- Where is the boy ?
Tada da kla kskanin	- The boy is on the tree.
Jawal kassu ye uro flene	- Show me the way to the market (please).
Karun	- It's nearby
Klonum kuru'a ?	- Is your farm far ?
Kloni karun.	- My farm is nearby
Funum cik gay	- Go straight ahead.
Kuru'a	- Is it far ?
Kuruini	- It is not far.

Grammar (See index for details)

"a" added to the conjugated form of the verb introduces the conditional :

ex : raemia : if you like.
Issia : if he comes.

Lokol du konumia jawal yala ye da gone - if you go past the school, take the road on the north.

CONJUGATION

Ga = to follow

Present

Gaki =	I follow
Gami =	You follow
Jigay =	He/She follows
Gaye =	We follow
Gawi =	You follow
Jagay =	They follow

past

Gakna =	I followed
Gama =	You followed
Jigana =	He followed
Gayena =	We followed
Gawua =	You followed
Jagana =	They followed

IMPERATIVE : Gay = follow (sing)
Gaywo = follow (pl)

Jawal fu num ye gay : follow the road in front of you.

EXERCISES.

No 1 : In this exercise you have to give the appropriate answers to the following questions using these words : funum, kmboram, kuru, karun, kla, ciro, jawal, cidia, katte, mashidi, likitadi.

a - Lokol du nara ni ?
b - Nara nin salla cadi ?
c - Jawal fi gaki likitadi ro leki ?
d - Fado num kuru'a ?
e - Mukko fi a bri bumi ?
f - Gashi num nara nin ?
g - Timi num nara nin ?
h - Nara nin kra dimi ?
i - Nara nin tumatun a karoti a caladi ?
j - Jawal nara ye manumi ?

No 2. Construct a simple plan of the site indicating the four cardinal points. Then underneath indicate, the infirmary, the language office, and the buvette in relation to the refectoire.Then explain your plan in class.

No 3. Correct these statements, and tell where these cities are located in relation to others you know. then read jour sentences aloud in class.

ex : France ciro Afrik nin - A'a France ciro Europ nin.
or. A'a France ciro Afrik ni ini.

a - syracuse ciro colorado nin.
b - Buffalo karun San Francisco nin.
c - Alaboma katte Oregon wa California wa nin.
d - Katte Texas wa Mexiko wa kuro.
e - Kanada anum lan.
* ini = is not.

No 4. Ask questions on the underlined words.

1. Likitadi nin karwun fandumi.
2. Mashidi ro leyeko.
3. Makka adinam nin krga.
4. Kakadu du klas kuris nin.
5. Klonju kuru nin.

CROSS-CULTURE

- People usually don't point to a direction with one finger.
- People are always very willing to help you find your way.

Proverb

- Kan koroma di faciwawo - whoever asks never gets lost.

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THEME VIII

TRAVELLING

COMPETENCY No IX : TRAVEL

Vocabulary

- Blawuro - Travel (trip)
- Ala klewa - Goodbye (farewell)
- Bannadu - To break down (also to spoil/to damage)
- Cidu - To leave (also to stand up)
- Dadadu - To walk around
- Dadu - To stop
- Dokin karfe - Bicycle
- Fando - To find
- Farmaso - Leave/vacation
- Fattu - To lose
- Frr - Horse
- Gattu/Kridu - To drive
- Gawo - To enter
- Guredu - To wait for
- Jibtu - To get down (may mean to arrive)
- Jirgi cidiye - Train
- Jirgi sameye - Plane
- Kar - Bus
- Kare - Luggage
- Karen mota - Driver's aid or apprentice
- Karimo - Camel
- Kawu - 24 hour-day (use in counting days)
- Koro - Donkey
- Krma - Now
- Ku - Today
- Mota - Car
- Motoma - Driver or car owner
- Ninutu - To stare
- Sarkin tasha - Taxi-brousse station supervisor
- To - So (O.K)
- Tudu - To fasten
- Yassa - To repair/to clean (a field)

EXPRESSIONS

- Klewan lene — Have a safe trip
- Klewan walle — Have a safe trip back
- Fado leane — Greet your folk
- Fanjay — They will hear (the greetings)
- Klewan jimowo — May you get to your destination safely
- Mota Goure'ye maki — I'm looking for a car to Goure
- Mota bawo — There is no car
- Gana dane — Hang on a minute (litt: wait a little)
- Sawi mota di ciji ? — When will the car leave ?
- Krma ma — In a minute (litt : right now)
- Mota du banajina — The car is broken down.
- Sawi mota du cassay ? — When will they repair the car ?
- Nawu yiki Goure'ro ? — How much will I give to Goure ?
- Mota du cimbrini — The car is not full
- Mota du cimbrina — The car is full
- Gana smettene namiki — Please make room for me (litt : Push a bit I'm going to sit)

- Karea num guwu, biyane — You have too much luggages, pay for them
- Karea ni gla tune — Fasten property my luggage (please)
- Karea ni facana — My luggages are lost
- Naran nin mota fandiki ? — Where will I find a car ?
- Mota gure niki — I'm waiting for the car
- Ua gurenowo — Wait for me
- Mota dajina — The car has stopped
- Kara nin daji — He/she/it stops in the bush
- Si nin leji — He goes on foot
- Kla frr nin lejay — They go on horse back
- Kla koro nin issi — He comes on donkey

TEXT

Ahmadu lokolma. Ku, farmaso ciwandina. Fadoro ledu cirauna. Bari tasharo leji mota mazaro. Tasha nin mota a guwu mejana. Am guwu ye mejana. Laa leduwu, laa ye daddajay na dun. Farmaso kojina di Ahmadu ciro kar la brin nin blanjaro leyano . Blanja du kuru, kawu yindi cado kla jawalnin. Kar du am guwu gojo. Kamu laa tia kaninju a ciro kar duro gayeno.

COMPREHESION QUESTIONS

1. Naro Ahmadu leji ?
2. Awiro tasharo leji ?
3. Awi am cadi tasha nin ?
4. Ciro awi nin Ahmadu blanjaro leyeno farmaso kojina du ?
5. Wundu kani ciro mota duro cako ?
6. Awiro kawu yindi cado kla jawalnin ?

Grammar

(See index for details)

Use of : LAA + VERB + LAA YE + VERB.

Laa = Some
Laa ye = Others

Ex : Laa bske cadi, laa ye aya cadi (Bske=dance - Aya=song)
Some are dancing, others are singing.

* Laa lokolwu, laa ye kidawu
Some are students, others are workers.

"Ye" could have sometimes the meaning of 'also'

Ex : Am guwu ye mejana - There are also a lot of people.

CONJUGATION

Imperative

Dadu = to stop

Dane ------> Stop (sing)
Danowo ----> Stop (plural)
Daniyow ----> Let's stop

Leadu = To greet

Leane -----> Greet (sing)
Leanowo ---> greet (plural)

Cidu = to leave/to get up

Jibtu = To get down

Jimme --------> Get down (sing)
Jimowo ------> Get down (plural)
Jimiyow -----> Let's get down

Cidu = To get up (to leave)

Cine --------> Get up (sing)
Cinowo ------> Get up (plural)
Ciniyow -----> Let's get up

Present (future)

Ciniki	I leave/I get up
Cinimi	You leave
Ciji	He/She leaves
Ciniye	We leave
Cinuwi	You leave
Cijay	They leave

Past

Cinikna	I left/Got up
Cinima	You left
Cijina	He/She left
Ciniyena	We left
Cinuwa	You left
Cijana	They left

EXERCISES

No 1 : Use the list of expressions to create a dialogue between you and a driver in which you will ask :

- Whether there is a car to Niamey, when it leaves,
- The cost,
- Add possible answers of the driver (asking for luggage fare).

No 2 : Give the possible questions to these negative answers :

a) Goure ro ini leeki.
b) Karea ni Guwu ini.
c) Mota cijiwawo
d) Na bawo.
e) Ku lenikiwawo.
f) A'a. Am laa leyay,laaye issay.
g) Biyanikiwawo.
h) Krma ini ciji.
i) Motama du isseni.
j) Kamu du lejiwawo.

No 3 : Translate these sentences into Kanuri.

a) I came from America.
b) I took a train from Boston to Philadelphia.
c) I took a plane in New York.
d) A car took me to Hamdallaye.
e) It took me three days to come here.
f) The trip is very expensive.
g) I had few luggage.
h) I go home on donkey.

PROVERB

Kashia sowa a di fadon gone duwon blawuro lene.
Take provisions and companions from home before setting off.

CROSS-CULTURE

- "Tasha", the "taxi de brousse" station, is the place where honesty is unknown, a place where all illegal traffickings occur. (So watch out).

- Once in a taxi-brousse your best allies are your fellow passengers. (Drivers can also be helpful).

- Unscheduled stops and all kind of delays are common occurences with "taxi de brousse".

- In big cities "tasha" fares are fixed, otherwise, you have to bargain. They may charge extra fee for large luggage.

- There are people whose job is to help passengers put their luggage up the car's roof. They charge a small amount for this service (Bargain).

THEME IX

DAILY ACTIVITIES

COMPETENCY No 10
DAILY ACTIVITIES
Telling times

Vocabulary

- Agogo/Montr - A watch
- Bare - Cultivate (farming)
- Bari - Tomorrow
- Barimina - Next year
- Bawo - Minus
- Bika - Yesterday
- Bikando/Bikanzo - The day before yesterday
- Bune - Night
- Bunejia - When night comes
- Cidu - To wake up
- Daze/Dade - Early
- Duwon/Kawu - Before
- Fazar - At day break
- Gsu/Badidu - To start
- Kajiri - Afternoon
- Kajirjia - When afternoon comes
- Kawu - Day (used to count days) e.g Kawu indi = 2 days
- Kausu - Heat/day light
- Ku - Today
- Kmune - This (current) year
- Kngal - Sun
- Kntau/Kndau - Month
- Kowason - Not yet
- Kumbal - Moon
- Kwata - Quarter
- Mawu - Week
- Mina - Next year
- Minti - Minute
- Munde - Last year
- Nado - To sow
- Sa - Time/Hour
- Reda/Reza - Half
- Sawi ? - At what time ?
- Suwa - In the morning
- Shiwolo - Star
- Tado - To meet
- Tutu - Pounding millet
- Waare - The day after tomorrow
- wajia - When morning comes
- Yaye - Even if/No matter

- Yim	- Day of the week (e.g Yim ladu'a on Sunday
- Yodu	- Possibility
- Yimbi	- Which day ?
- Yoji	- It's possible
- Yojià	- Is it possible ?
- Yojiwawo	- It is not possible
- Yojia	- If it is possible

EXPRESSIONS

- Sa nawu Krma ?	- What time is it now ?
- Krma sa uwu.	- It's five o'clock now.
- Sa uwu minti uwua.	- It's five minites after five
- Sa arakku kwataa.	- It's a quater past six
- Sa mewun indin redaa	- It's half past twelve
- Sa mewun minti fyakkua.	- It's 10:30

From the half hour on to the next full hour, the time may be expressed by subtracting from the next full hour by using the negative predicate of existence-'bawo'.(There is/are not). "Ro" may follow the hour.

Ex :

- Sa uwuro minti findi bawo.	- It is 20 minutes to 5:00
- Sa indiro kwata bawo	- It is a quarter to 2:00
- Sa wusku ro minti mewu tuluri bawo	- It is fourteen minutes to eight.

Activities

- Awi dımi ku ?	- What are you doing today ?
- Awima dikiwawo	- I have nothing to do.
- Sawi tadiye ?	- When will we meet ?
- Sa yindi rezaa tadiyiwo	- Let's meet at 2:30
- Yimbi walji ?	- Which day is he/she returning ?
- Kida diki.	- I'm working.
- Ciaki	- I am weaving
- Blawuro diki	- I am travelling
-Lumana sniro yadiki	- I am taking the animals to the pasture

Days, time and making an appointment

Seven days of the week

- Litinin	- Monday
- Talawu	- Tuesday
- Larawa	- Wednesday
- Lamisu	- Thursday
- Juma	- Friday
- Subdu	- Saturday
- Ladu	- Sunday

We add "a" to the name of the day to mean "on" as in: On tuesdays.
talawna

EXPRESSIONS

- Sawi issimi ?
- Bari issiki
- Sa nawu nin issimi ?
- Sawi kadim ?
- Bikando kadiko

- Bari sa mewu nin are
- Kajirjia issay

- Wajia ciniye
- Mota di suwa sa wusku nin ciji.

- Bunejia issikiwawo.
- Ladua kidaro lenimia ?

- A'a litinin a leki
- Talawua tadiyiwo.

- When will you come ?
- I will come tomorrow
- At what time will you come?
- When did you come ?
- I came the day before yesterday.
- Come tomorrow at 10:00
- They will come in the afternoon.
- We will leave tomorrow morning
- The car will leave at 8:00 in the morning
- I won't come to night
- Are you going to work on sunday?
- No, I'll go on monday
- Let's meet on Tuesday.

SEASONS AND RELATED ACTIVITIES

VOCABULARY

- Be
- Bigla
- Binum
- Nangri

- Spring (Activities : preparation of fields)
- Automn (Harvest time)
- Winter (Constructing houses, travels, etc)
- Summer (Rain season- People cultivate the land).

EXPRESSIONS

- Kida fi biglajia dimi ?

- Arum kamuki fadoro kudiki.
- Nangrijia am bare cadi.
- Naram yaye kazum kri meji.
- Sawi klo num yassami ?
- Sawi bare gsumi?

- Binumjio am guwu fado cadi.
- Nangrijia am arum canadi.
- Bejia zauro kausua.
- Bejia am la'a blawuro cadi.
- Binumjia kakua.

- What kind of job do you do in automne ?
- I cut millet and bring it home.
- In the summer people cultivate
- There is green grass everywhere.
- When will you clear your field ?
- When are you going to start farming?
- In winter many people build houses.
- In summer people sow millet.
- It's very hot in the spring.
- In spring, some people travel.
- In the winter it is cold.

Grammar

(See index for detail)

The use of "jia" : add "jia" to a time period to express an idea of future.

Ex : - Kajirjia kloro leeki - When afternoon comes, I'll go to the farm.
- Biglajia frr yiwuki - In automn, I'll buy a horse.

"Yaye" is used to describe a state or event which will exist no mater what.

Ex : - Klo cizani yaye bare cidi - Though he doesn't have a farm he cultivates.
- Daze yaye kausu di jau - Though it is early, it is hot.

CONJUGATION

Verb : TADO = TO MEET.

Present (only in plural)

Tadiye	- We meet
Taduwu	- You meet
Tadin	- They meet

Past tense

Tadiyena	- We met
Taduwa	- You met
Tadena	- They met

The singular mode is unconceivable because you need at least two people for action of meeting.

EXERCISES

No 1 : Answer these questions :

1. Saa nawu nin bonumi ?
2. Saa nawu nin cinumi ?
3. Saa nawu nin kida gsumi ?
4. Yimbi kida dimbawo ?
5. Kawu num nawu Hamdallaye nin ?
6. Sawi blanumro lenumi ?
7. Kida awiye Hamdallaye nin dimi ?
8. Awi dimi kajirjia ?
9. Bunejia nara lenumi ?
10. Naran nin nangri kojina du dim ?

No 2 : Translate these sentences into Kanuri.

1. She prepares food at 5:00 Am
2. She goes to the farm at 6:00 Am
3. They cultivate the field from 6:45 to 3:00 Pm.
4. She comes back home at 3:30 Pm.
5. She pounds millet at 5:00 Pm
6. She goes to the well at 5:45 Pm.
7. She prepares food from 6:30 to 7:30 Pm
8. They eat dinner from 7:40 to 8:15 Pm
9. She bathes her son at 8:30 Pm
10. She goes to bed at 9:00 Pm.

No 3 : Construct a dialogue in which you make an appointment with a friend. The friend will ask you **when**, **where** and **why** the meeting is taking place. You will provide answers to his questions.

PROVERBS **Ala yano' : 'cine nia jitambki''.**
God said : 'Stand up and I will help you'.

(Yano = said; Jitambki = I'll help)

(A saying to encourage people to take initiatives and not wait in for miracles).

CROSS-CULTURE

- For the people of Niger, particularly the villagers, time is not a measurable quantity.
- Because of this, people tend to be several minutes late on fixed appointments or meetings.
- Mostly people use the prayer times - duar (2 Pm); laaser (4:30 Pm), Magrib (7 Pm) and Lesha (after 9 Pm)- when making appointments, plans ,etc...
- On the other hand people don't wait for invitations to pay one another a visit.
- At times, people may inquire even into small details of one's life considered private in western societies.
- People in villages are early birds.

THEME X

GARDENING

COMPETENCY No 11
Gardening.
Garden items.

Vocabulary	Zurwu-garden
Baram	Well
Blaa	Hole
Bukadi	Bucket
Cidi/katti	Sand
Fayda	Utility/usefulness
Garaw	Fence
Griyagi/waya	Screen, cyclone fence
Jawal	Path
Kajim	Grass
Kangale	Millet stalks used for fencing
Karawji	Stake
Karwi	Jug used to draw , water from the well
Kasuni	Seeds
Kaudi	Shade
Kamboy	Easy/light (# leavy)
Kere	Seed bed/pot bed
Leda	Planting pot
Mouri	Fertilizer
Ngurwo	Shade
Tono	Barrel/oil drum
Waya	(barbed) wire

Gardening tools :

Arozoir	watering can
Adda	matchet
Beo	ax / hatchet
Bruet	wheel barrow
Cira	gravel
Dabi	hoe / small hoe
Dirgi/zirgi	cistern
Diga	pick
Jena	knife
Je	rope / string
Kau	rock/rocky hill
Kaskar	rake

Pel	shovel
Pompi	pump
Tawida	sickle
Tiyo	hose
Reza	razor / blade

Gardening activities :

Verbs

Ɜaredu	to cultivate / to hoe
Didu	to mix
Ɗidu	to pour
Doro	to gather fruit
Galdu	to measure
Gardu	to fence
Kamdu	to cut
Keredu	to make plates
Kittuwu	to maintain / to take care
Koktu	to plant
Kuradu / ridu	to grow
Ladu	to dig
Nado	to sow
Rubtu	to bury
Yatto	to water

Parts of a tree : **Kska** tree

Dilam	branches
Fure	flowers
gawassi	bark
Kalu	leaves
Kri	green (fruit (not ripe),leaves, ect.)
Si	roots

EXPRESSIONS :

Gardening steps :

1	- Na ngla karun fado ye mane	- look for a good site near home.
2	- Baram lane na du nin	- dig a well there
3	- Na da frane	- clear the site
4	- Kere ne	- make the plates
5	- Mouri fine	- pour some fertiliser
6	- Barene	- hoe it
7	- Ingi fine	- water it
8	- Blaa lane	- dig a hole
9	- Leda kska ye da kamme	- cut the planting pot
10	- Kska da blaadaro yake/kasuni yake	- put the plant into the hole/put the seeds.

11 - Blaa da rubne	- close the hole
12 - Ingi fine	- pour water
13 - na da garne	- fence the site
14 - kullum yatte	- water everyday.

COMMON EXPRESSIONS IN GARDENING :

Bafuna	(it is) ripe
Bafuni	(it is) not ripe
Cizuna	(it is) enough
Cizuni	(it is) not enough
Awi kongmi ?	what do you transplant ?
Kida du komboywa ?	Is the work easy ?
Kska koktu	reforestation
Awi fayda zurwuye ?	what are the advantages of a garden ?
Tumatun konguki	I transplant tomato
Tumatun doruki	I gather tomato fruits.
Mangoro bafuni	the mango is not ripe
Karea zurwu ye fayda a	garden's products are very useful.
Kolji kan gurjamjiy	peanuts help put on weight
Gawuri masarmi duno ci	maize gives energy to the body.
Mangoro nan lewa roji	mango keeps one in good health.

Grammar

(See index for details)

Impérative : (singular)

Barene	hoe it
Dine	mix it
Dore	gather them
Fine	pour it
Galle	measure it
Kerene	make the plates
Kiskene	take care of it / them
Konge	transplant it
Lane	dig it
Nade	sow it
Rubne	close / shut
Yatte	water it

Imperative (plural)

Barenowo	cultivate
Dinowo	mix it
Dorowo	gather them
Finowo	pour it

To make the imperative (plural form), the verb loses its final letter and takes "**owo**".

Use of | Awi = What (singular)
+
"**Awiso**" = What plural)
Also use 'awiso awiso' to mean what difference things.'

Ex: Awiso awiso dim bika ? What are the different things you did yesterday.

EXERCISES

N° 1: Give the list of items (in kanuri) needed to start a garden nursery.

N° 2: Answer these questions :

a) Awi fayda kolji ye ?
b) Awi fayda tumatun ye ?
c) Awi fayda lemu ye ?
d) Awi fayda pel ye ?
e) Awi fayda zirgi ye ?
f) Awinin zurwu franumi ?
h) Awiso awiso kongam ciro kere num nin ?
i) Nara nin ingi yatto ye fandumi ?

N° 3: Use the expressions section to do this exercise : kawu zurwu dimi awiso awiso manumi ?

CROSS-CULTURE

- Men and women are equally involved in gardening.
- Since the 1984 drought gardening has become more common.
- Usually some people consider gardening as having a lesser value then farming.

INDEX

INDEX : GENERAL REMARKS ON THE LANGUAGE.

I - Noun Formation.

A distinctive feature of kanuri is, there is no grammatical gender. Natural gender is expressed either by :

- Using a specific word for each sex (ex: komu = woman; konguwa = man).

- or adding the words (bi = male) and (kurkuri = female) to the general term of the species. (ex : Frr bi = stallion; frr kurkuri = mare).

A - suffixe used to form common names.

Suffixe: - : - Ma (sing) - wu (pl)

This suffixes indicate the bearer of a profession and can be used to form adjectives when added to verbs or to certain nouns.

Ex : bare = cultivate; barema = cultivator
zurwu = garden; zurwuma = gardener
klo = farm; kloma = farmer
(Replace the -ma with -wu for the plural form).
Barema--->barewu------->cultivator(s)
Kloma---->klowu-------->farmer(s)
Mota = a car ; mota ma = driver/ car owner; mptawu= drivers.
Lokol = school; lokolma = student; lokalwu = students.

Suffix: - mi

This suffixe implies son of' and is used to form patronymies.

Ex : Umarmi = son of Umar; Jarami = son of Jara.

Suffixes: -ri or -di

-ri is used to imply house of, place of, etc... (indicates an ethnic group or a clan).
-di is used for families or professions.

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Ex : Hausari = place of haussa (hausaland or hausa village.
Fulatari = place of fulata (fulani land or fulani village)
Kantari = house of kanta (village of the kanta clan).
Limandi = place of Liman (village or neighborhood of the area's imam.
Malumdi = place of Malum (village of reknowed moselm teachers).
Mamandi = place of Maman (village or neighborhood of the family of Maman).
Aridi = place of Ari (village or neighborhood of the family of Ari).

Suffix : -ram

The suffixe -ram implies "daughter of".

Ex : Mairam = princess (mai = king; -ram daughter of)
It is also used to imply the place of an activity.

Ex : Kidaram = place of work (kida = work)
Mazuram = place to look for (mazu = to look for)
Kraram = place of study (kra = study)

B - Prefixe "nan"

It is used to describe a state of being, the state of an action or abstract nouns, : (roughly as the equivalent of English -ness)

Ex : nan klewa = health (state of being heathly)
nan duno = strongness (duno = strengh)
nan kura = bigness (kura = big).
nan kibbu = hardness (kibbu = hard).

C - Plural formation :

Singular words take -a (or -wa) to form the plural.

Ex : Fado / fadoa (house / houses)
Mota /motaa (car / cars)
It can invariably be -a or -wa
An exception to the rule is "kam" (= man) which plural is "am" (= men)
.

Note 1 : The prefix -so is added to a noun to give the idea of a collection of items : (the item is one among others of different nature . There have to be things of different nature.

Ex : kani so (= one goat among others : animals or things).
Mota so (a car among other items).
Fadoa so (houses among other things).

Note 2 : The plural of adjectives is formed by repeating the adjective :

Fadoa kura kura = big houses.

II - **Sentences :**

Word order in kanuri is subject - object - verb.
Ex : Ba anju tiro wurici = his father gives him money
litt : his father him money gives).

Note 1 : Unless they want to make very clear what the subject is, generally kanuri people do not use the nominative pronoun.

Ex : Tia baci = he beats her.
(litt : her beats) to make clear the subject one should say:
Ti tia baci = He beats her (litt : He her beats).

Note 2 : To further put an emphasis on the subject the suffixe ma is added to the subject :

Ex : Baanju ma tiro wuri ci = it is his father who gives him money.
Tima tia baci = it is him who beats her.

Uma diko == it is me who did it (making a claim).

Note 3 : Kanuri doesn't have a verb "to be" as such, and its conjugated form (am, are, is) is virtually unknown. Instead a mere juxtaposition of words (noun / adjective) is used :

Ex : Lokol di kura = the school is big.
Ti afuno = he is hausa
Kamunju ngala = his wife is pretty.

The use of kawu.

Kawu is used to mean since, until the time, or before.

1 - **Since**

Kawu Hamdallayero issikena man nara ma lekeni.
Since I came to Hamdallaye I have not gone anywhere.
Kawu kida yeriena man awima diyende.
We have not done anything since we finished our work.

Note : Here "kawu" is used to express past action in connection with an action in the present perfect.

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2 - **Until the time.**

Kawu cinimi ro kakadu adu krane.
Read this book until (the time) you leave.
(lit : Until you leave book this read).

Kawu kidanum yeremi ro fado nin bone. Spend the night in my house until you finish your work.

3 - **Before**

Kawu issiki ro kidada yere - finish the work before I come back.

kawu issimi ro kidada yereki wawo. I won't finish the work before you come back.

Note : Here "kawu" is used to talk about a future action.

Indefinite noun phrase and the use of laa

laa -------	one, certain one
sa laa ----	some times
laadu ----	some
laanza ----	some of it / them
laande ----	some of us
kam laa ---	someone
am laa ----	some people
awo laa ---	something
na laa ----	somewhere
yin laa ---	one day

IV - **List of verbs and conjugation table.**

Kanuri verbs fall in two goups when they are conjugated.The difference between these two comes from the endings.Further, the root of the verbs differs from their infinitive forms.

A - **Endings of the first group verbs.**

- Ki (I)	Ci --- i	(he,she,it)
- mi (you)	Ca --- i	(they)
- ye (we)	Cidi -----	He/She does
- uwi (you)	Cadi ------	They do

Note : The third persons plural and singular affect the root of the verbs in two ways : they take a prefixe and an ending; which are :
(These endings apply to the present tense which is also future).

Ex : Verb : krao; root : rae. (= to like, to love, to want)

raeki (I like) raeye (we like)
raemi (you like) raeuwi (you like)
ciraei (he likes) caraei (they like)

Note 2 : Exceptions occur with the third persons for the sake of sound in certain verbs :

Ex 1 : Verb : koro; root : kori (= to ask)

Koriki (I ask) koriye (we ask)
korimi (you ask) koruwi (you ask)
ciwori (he asks) cawori (they ask)

(Notice the change of K into W and the removal of final i in the third persons).

Ex 2 : Verb : bo; root : bu (=to eat)

buki (I eat) buye (we eat)

bumi (you eat) buwi (you eat)

juwi (he eats) jawi (they eat)

Note 3 : Ci bu i = Juwi
Ca bu i = Jawi

* **Past tense endings of the first group verbs**

- Kna (I)

- ma (you)

- yena (we)

- wa (you)

Note : Third persons past tense: Ci -- ena (he, she, it)
Ca -- ena (they)

Ex : krao = to like. (root = rae)
raekna (I liked) raeyena (we liked)
raema (you liked) raewa (you liked)
ciraina (he liked) caraona they liked

Note 1 : The exceptions are the same as in the present tense.

EX 1 : koro = to ask. (root : kori)

Ciworina (he asked)
Caworana (they asked)

Ex 2 : bo = to eat (root : bu)

jiwuna (he ate)
jawuna (they ate)

B - Endings of the second group verbs.

- eki	(I)	- iye	(we)
- emi	(you)	- uwi	(you
- ci /ji	(he)	- cay /jay	(they)

Note 1: According to the ending of the root of the verb the third persons endings change : when it ends with a it becomes ci (for he), cay (for they), for other endings it is ji (for he) and jay (for they). Roots ending with n drop it in the third persons. After e the third person singular takes only i and gives the sound yi (ei = yi).

Ex 1 Verb : godu; root : gon (to take).

Goniki	Goniye
Gonimi	Go nuwi
Goji	Go jay

Ex 2 : verb jattu; root; jan (to shut)

Janeki (I Shut)	Janiye (We shut)
Janemi (you shut)	Januwi (you shut)
Jaci (He shuts)	Jacay (They shut)

Note 2: With roots ending with a the third person plural ending becomes sayi (as in gao, gae (= to enter, gasayi = they enter.

* Past tense endings of the second group verbs.

- ikna (I)	- Nena (we)
- ima (you)	- uwa (you)
- cina / jina (he)	- cana / jana (they)

Ex 1 : Verb : Godu root : Gon (= to take)

- Gonikna (I took)
- Conima (you took)
- Gojina (he took)

Giniyena (we took)
Gonuwa (you took)
Gojana (they took)

Ex 2 : Verb : jattu; root; jan (=to shut)

- Janikna (I shut)
- Janima (you shut)
- Jacina (he shut)

- Janiyena (we shut)
- Januwa (you shut)
- Jacana (they shut)

Note : The endings of the verbs in the third persons change in the same pattern as in present tense (see IV B Note 1). With a final a in the root of the verb, the third person singular ending is -na (as in gao, Gae (to enter) which becomes Gaena (he entered); the third person plural ending is then, saena (as in Gao, Gae (to enter) which becomes Gasaena (they entered).

C - **The imperative; the conditional**

* To form the imperative of all the verbs add e to the root (to make a Singular imperative) and owo (to make a plural imperative).

Ex : Verb jattu; root : jan = to shut

jane = shut (you; sing)
janowo = shut (you; plur.)
Janiyow = let's shut.

* To form the conditional, add a to the present form of the verb.

Ex : verb; krao; root : raa
raeki = I like; raekia (If I like); Ciraei = he likes;
ciraeia = If he likes.

Conjugation

The second past tense

Kanuri has two levels of past tense. The first one that we've already dealt with (endings in -kna; -ma; ci-; -na; -yena; -nwa; ca - na) which corresponds roughly to the English present perfect. The second form can be compared to the English simple past and is used to describe precise actions completed in the past. Its conjugation also varies according to the two verb categories.

* First category verbs indings in the second past tense:

- Ko (I); -m (you); ci----o (he,etc..); -yeye (we); -uwo (you); ca----o (they); added to the roots of the verbs.

Ex: Kro (to see); dio (to do); Kro (root = ru).

Ruko (I saw); rum (you saw); ciro (he saw); ruyeye (we saw); ruwo (you saw); caro (they saw). Some do add 'Ki' to root, thus: Kiruko (I saw); Kirum (he saw); Ciro (he saw); Kiruye (we saw); Kiruwo (you saw); Caro (they saw).

Dio (root di): Diko (I did); Dim (you did); Cido (he did); Diyeye (we did); Diuwo (you did); Cado (they did) [or Kidiko, etc..].

Exceptions

Ba (to mount); Ta (to have). The difference is with the 3nd persons endings: Bako, Bam, juwano, Bayeye, Bawo, Jawano,
ta (root = ta), Tako, Tam, Cizano, Tayeye, Tawo, Cazano.

* Second category verbs endings in the second past tense:

- Ko (I), -Um/-Kem (you), -Yen (jo)/-Ken/-o(he,etc..), -Yeye (we), Uwo (you), _Yera/Kera/ra (they) added to the root.

Ex: Godu (to pick up/ take), Ledu (to go), Naptu (to sit down).

Godu [Root: Gon] Gonuko (I took), Gonum (you took), Goyen/Gojo (he took), Goyeye (we took), Gonuwo (you took), Goyera (they took).

Ledu [Root: Len : Len ko (Iwent), Lenum (you went), Leyen/Lejo (he went), Leyeye (we) Lenuwo (you went), Leyera (they went).

Naptu [Root: Nom : Namuko (Isat down); Napkem (you sat down); Napken (he sat down); Namyeye (we sat down); Napkera (they sat down).

Note: Verbs ending in 'ptu'; 'ktu'; 'ttu' end in -kem (you); ken (he, etc..), kera (they) in the 2nd past form.

Ex: Raktu = to be able to; root = ran ranuko (Iwas able to); rakem (you were able to); raken (he was able); raniyeye (we were able to); ranuwo (you were able); rakkera (they were able).

The second past tense form is usually used to ask questions on precise actions completed in the past using the questionning words below.

Nararo	= Where
Awiro	= Why
Wundo	= who
Sawi	= When
Fi	= Which
Nawu	= How much
INdanin	= How
Awi	= What

EX: Nawu tam ? - How much did you have ? (5.e: How much did you actually get and do you possess now ?)

Sawi isso ? When did he arrive ?
Awiro leyem ? Why did you go ?

Pronominal conjugation:

* First category verb pronominal conjugation: these affixes are added to the conjugated form of the verb: I : S(you, he, you, they); We : Sa(you, he, you, they). You (sing.): Nj(I, he, we, they); You(pl.): Vja(I, he, we, they).

Ex: Kro; dio; krao.
Kro(root = ru) = to see.

Present: Ruki (I see); Rummi (you see); Cirui (he sees); Ruye (we see); Ruwi (you see); Carui (they see).

Prononominal: Njruki (I see you); Njrui (he sees you); Njruye (we see you); Njarui (they see you).
Srummi (you see me); Srui (he sees me); Sruwi (you see me); Sarui (they see me); (could be future also).
Dio (root = di) = to do

Pronominal: Njdiki (Ido it for you); Njidi (he does it for you); Njdiye (we do it for you); Njadi (they do it for you).
Sdimmi (you do it for you); Sdi (he do it for you); Sdiuwi (you do it for me); Sadi (they do it for me). [could be future also]
Krao (root:ra) = to like/to love/to need.

Pronominal: Njra ki (I like you); Njrayi (he likes you); Njirayiye (we like you); Njarayi (they like you).
Sra mmi (you like me); Srayi (she likes me); Srae uwi (you like me); Sarayi (they like me).

The past pronominal follows the same pattern:

Ex: Njraekna (Ihave liked you); Sraemma (you have liked me).

* Cf rule for past tense cojugation.

* Second category verb pronominal conjugation is done this way: before the appropriate ending the root of the verbs take these sounds:

I and we :-S-
You (sing/pl.) : -Nj-

Ex: Wuldu = to say / nodu = to know.

Future/present pronominal:

Wuldu (root:wul)

Wulnjki (Itell you); Wulnji (he tells you); Wulnjiye (we tell you); Wulnjay (they tell you); Wulsmmi (you tell me); Wulsi (he tells me); Wulsuwi (you tell me); Wulsay (they tell me).

Nodu (root:non) (Either present or future)

Nonjki (I'll know you); Nonji he'll know you); Nonjiye (we'll know you); Nonjay (they'll know you);

Nosmi (you'll know me); Nosi (he'll know me); Nosuwi (you'll know me); Nosay (tey'll know me).
The past pronominal follows the same pattern.

Ex: Nodu (root = non) = to know.
Nonjkno (Ihave known you), Nonjina (he has known you); Nonjiyena (we have known you); Nonjana (they have known you).

* Cf rule for past tense cojugation.

A simple way of pronominal conjugation is using the object pronouns: Ua (me); Nia (you); Tia (him/her/it); Andia (us); Nandia (you); Tandia (them).

Ex: Baanja tandia cirayina. (Their father like them).
Kanaa num Ua cara na. (You brothers like me).

Note: Tenses in kanuri are not quite like the ones in English for example present and future tenses are the same in kanuri because they describe unfinished actions (actions that are to come (future) or in the process of completion (present).

Ex: Leniki'means either I go (i.e in the process of going) or I'll go (Some time in the future).
With some verbs such as 'krao' (to like) the first past tense carries more the idea of present than of past:

Ex: 'Njra kna' means 'I have liked you' but the idea behind it, is this : 'I started to like you and I still like you'.

However, with the second past tense, the action is totally completed in the past.

Ex: Fadoro leyen---------->He went home.
It is also used when trying to be polite and it has thus the English past conditional sense.

Ex: Ingi roeko---------->I'd like some water

c - List of the first group of verbs in kanuri

Infinitive	Root	3rd person sing.(pres.)	3rd person plur.(pres.)	Translation
ba	ba	juwai	jawai	to mount/climb
bo	bu	juwi	jawi	to eat
cidu	cini	ciji	cijay	to stand up
dio	di	cidi	cadi	to do
ja	yaa	cay	cassay	to drink
jasa	yaso	casi	casay	to repair
jezo	yeji	ceji	cejay	to kill
jimbre	yimbre	cimbri	cassambri	to fill
jiwo	yiwe	ciwi	cawi	to buy
jo	yi	ci	cadi	to give
jundo	yunde	cundi	caundi	to swallow
kaso	kasa	cayesi	cayesay	to flee
koro	kore	ciwori	cawori	to ask
krao	rae	ciraei	caraei	to like
kro	ru	ciray	caray	to see
lado	lade	ciladi	caladi	to sell
stambo	stambe	citambi	catambi	to help someone
ta	ta	cizay	cazay	to have

C - List of second group of verbs

Infinitive	Root	3rd person sing.(pres.)	3rd person plur.(pres.)	Translation
baktu	ban	baci	bacay	to hit
banaedu	banaan	banaaji	banaajay	to help
captu	capn	capci	capjay	to gather
dadu	dan	daji	dajay	to stop
dedu	den	deji	dejay	to cook
dega	dea	deai	deajay	to dwell
didu	din	diji	dijay	to mix
dudo	dun	duji	dujay	to sew
fandu	fann	fanji	fanjay	to feel/to hear
fardu	farn	farji	farjay	to fly
fidu	fin	fiji	fijay	to pour
fudu	fun	fuji	fujay	to blow
gandu	gann	ganji	ganjay	to hurry
gao	gae	gaei	gasay	to enter
gattu	gann	gaci	gacay	to drive
godu	gon	giji	gojay	to take
gremdu	grem	gremjii	gremjay	to run
guredu	guren	gureji	gurejay	to wait
jattu	jan	jaci	jacay	to shut
kadu	kan	kaji	kajay	to open
kamdu	kamn	kamji	kamjay	to cut
kenso	issi	issi	issay	to come
kodu	kon	koji	kojay	to surpass
koldu	koll	kolji	koljay	to let
kradu	kran	kraji	krajay	to read

C. Contined

kridu	krin	kriji	krijay	to drive a car
ledu	len	leji	lejay	to go
naptu	nam	napci	napcay	to sit down
ngsu	gs	gsi	gsay	to start
nodu	non	noji	nojay	to know
raktu	ran	raci	racay	to be able to
ruwudu	ruwun	ruwuji	ruwujay	to write
kodu	kon	koji	kojay	to leave/tolift
tattu	tad	taci	tacay	to climb
tumadu	tuman	tumaji	tumajay	to suppose
tumbaldu	tumbal	tumbalji	tumbaljay	to push
tustu	tussi	tussi	tussay	to rest
waadu	waan	waaji	waajay	to refuse
wuldu	wul	wulji	wuljay	to say